AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1   1.   (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for resolving host
2   names on a network, comprising:
3   receiving at a modem a host name query from a client
4   computer;
5   transmitting said host name query from said
6   modem to a plurality of <u>known</u> Domain Name System (DNS) servers
7   <u>set up in the modem;</u> and
8   returning a single address to said client computer from said
9   modem, where said single address is based on said host name
10   query and any responses received from said DNS servers.

1   2.   (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ <u>A</u> computer implemented method ~~of claim 1,~~
2   ~~wherein said return further comprises:~~ <u>for resolving host names on a network,</u>
3   <u>comprising:</u>
4   <u>receiving at a modem a host name query from a client</u>
5   <u>computer;</u>
6   <u>transmitting said host name query from said</u>
7   <u>modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and</u>
8   <u>returning a single address to said client computer from said</u>
9   <u>modem, where said single address is based on said host name</u>
10   <u>query and any responses received from said DNS servers, said returning step</u> 11
    <u>comprising,</u>
12   acquiring a plurality of addresses associated with
13   said host name query, from said DNS servers;
14   applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said addresses; and
15   returning said address to said client computer, such that said
16   client can send a request for content to said address.

1   3.   (Cancelled)

1   4.   (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method
2   for resolving host names on a network,
3   comprising:
4   receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;
5   transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of
6   Domain Name System (DNS) servers;
7   acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query,
8   from said DNS servers;
9   determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS 10
    servers;
11   eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all but the most
12   recent address; and

13   returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can 14
send a request for content to said address.

1   5.   (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method
2   for resolving host names on a network,
3   comprising:
4   receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;
5   transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of
6   Domain Name System (DNS) servers;
7   acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query,
8   from said DNS servers;
9   determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS 10
servers;
11   eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all addresses not
12   provided by a service provider DNS server; and
13   returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can 14
send a request for content to said address.

1   6.   (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A computer implemented method ~~of claim 1,~~ for
2   resolving host names on a network, comprising:
3   receiving at a modem a host name query from a client
4   computer;
5   transmitting said host name query from said
6   modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and
7   returning a single address to said client computer from said
8   modem, where said single address is based on said host name
9   query and any responses received from said DNS servers, wherein said
10 returning step ~~further~~ comprises:
11   determining that a host has not been located by said DNS
12   servers;
13   performing a search using said host name query as a search
14   string; and
15   transmitting a results address of where results of said search
16   are located, to said client computer.

1   7.   (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 6, wherein said
2   performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search
3   string to a search engine.

1   8.   (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said
2   sending further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a
3   search engine selected by a service provider.

1   9.   (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said
2   sending step further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a

3   search engine selected by a system administrator.

1   10.   (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein
2   prior to transmitting said host name query, <u>the method</u> further comprising:
3   searching a cache for an address associated with said host
4   name query; and
5   if located, returning a located address to said client, such that said
6   client computer can send a request for content to said address.

1   11.   (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein
2   prior to transmitting said host name query, <u>the method</u> further
3   comprising:
4   searching a cache based on said host name query; and
5   if cached content associated with said host name query is
6   located, returning said cached content
7   to said client computer, such that said client can display said content.

1   12.   (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein said
2   modem is coupled to a VPN (Virtual Private Network), and at least one of said
3   plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.

1   13.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resolving host names
2   on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer program product comprising a
3   computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the computer
4   program comprising:
5   instructions for receiving a host name query from a client
6   computer;
7   instructions for transmitting said host name
8   query to a plurality of <u>known</u> Domain Name System (DNS) servers <u>set up in</u>
9   <u>the modem;</u> and
10   instructions for returning a single address to said client
11   computer; where said single address is based on said host name
12   query and any responses received from said DNS servers.

1   14.   (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ <u>A</u> computer program product ~~of claim 13,~~ <u>for</u>
2   <u>resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer</u>
3   <u>program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer</u>
4   <u>program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:</u>
5   <u>instructions for receiving a host name query from a client</u>
6   <u>computer;</u>
7   <u>instructions for transmitting said host name</u>
8   <u>query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers set up in the</u>
9   <u>modem; and</u>
10   <u>instructions for returning a single address to said client</u>
11   <u>computer; where said single address is based on said host name</u>
12   <u>query and any responses received from said DNS servers,</u> wherein

13   said instructions for returning ~~further~~ comprise:

14   instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with

15   said host name query, from said DNS servers;

16   instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was

17   acquired from said DNS servers;

18   instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses; and

19   instructions for returning said address to said client computer,

20   such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

1   15.   (Cancelled)

1   16.   (Previously Presented) A computer program product

2   for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer

3   program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program

4   embedded therein, the computer program comprising:

5   instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

6   instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of

7   Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

8   instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host 9

name query, from said DNS servers;

10   instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired 11

from said DNS servers;

12   instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses

13   by rejecting all but the most recent address; and

14   instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that 15

said client can send a request for content to said address.

1   17.   (Previously Presented) A computer program product

2   for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer

3   program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program

4   embedded therein, the computer program comprising:

5   instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

6   instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of

7   Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

8   instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host 9

name query, from said DNS servers;

10   instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired 11

from said DNS servers;

12   instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses

13   by rejecting all addresses not provided by a service provider

14   DNS server; and

15   instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that 16

said client can send a request for content to said address.

1   18.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resolving host

2 names, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a 3
computer program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:

4   instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

5   instructions for ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting said host name query to a 6
plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

7   instructions for determining whether a host has been located

8   by said DNS servers;

9   if a host is located, instructions for returning an address for the host to 10
said client computer;

11   if a host is not located, instructions for performing a search using said 12
host name query as a search string; and

13   instructions for transmitting an address of where results of said

14   search can be viewed to said client computer.

1 19.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein said
2 instructions for performing comprise instructions for sending said host name query as
3 a search string to a search engine.

1 20.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said
2 instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name
3 query as a search string to a search engine selected by a service provider.

1 21.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said
2 instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name
3 query as a search string to a search engine selected by a system administrator.

1 22.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said
2 instructions for returning step further comprise:
3   instructions for searching a cache for an address associated
4   with said host name query; and
5   instructions for returning a located address to said client, such
6   that said client computer can send a request for content to said
7   address.

1 23.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said
2 instructions for returning further comprise:
3   instructions for searching a cache based on said host name
4   query;
5   instructions for returning cached content associated with said
6 host name query to said client computer, such that said client can
7 display said content.

1 24.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein
2 at least one of said plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.

1 25.   (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for resolving host

2   names on a network, comprising:
3   receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;
4   transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of
5   Domain Name System (DNS) servers;
6   determining whether a host has not been located by said DNS
7   servers;
8   if a host is located, returning at least one address for the host to
9   said client computer;
10   if a host is not located, performing a search using said host name query 11
    as a search string and returning a results address of where results of said
12   search are located to said client computer.

1   26.   (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2   wherein said performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search
3   string to a search engine.

1   27.   (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2   wherein if a plurality of hosts associated with said host name query are returned from 3   said
DNS servers;
4   applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said hosts; and
5   returning an address for said one host to said client computer, such that 6
    said client can send a request for content to said address.